

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1379

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1468

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), TZ
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: STATE 098300

1. I REGRET THAT DAR 1210 AND 1425 DID NOT REFLECT FULLY THE
FORCEFULNESS WITH WHICH WE RESPONDED TO TANGOV'S SUCCESSIVE
DOWNGRADING OF LEVEL OF DINNER FOR SECRETARY. I SEVERAL TIMES
USED WORDS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL WITH THOSE OF REFTEL. HOWEVER,
THE EXPLANATION GIVEN BY THE TANGOV, I.E., THAT THERE HAD BEEN
OBJECTIONS (WHICH, I AM QUITE SURE, WERE FROM QUARTERS OF POLI-
TICAL INFLUENCE) TO HAVING DINNER GIVEN BY ANYONE OTHER THAN
COUNTERPART AND THAT OBJECT OF CHANGES WAS TO INSURE COMPLETE
SUCCESS BY MAKING EVERYONE ON TANZANIAN SIDE PLEASED, STRIKES
ME AS SOUND AND SINCERE IN THE TANZANIAN CONTEXT.

2. OUR INITIAL ERROR WAS PROBABLY IN NOT RECOGNIZING EARLY ON
THAT ORIGINAL TANGOV APPROACH MIGHT GIVE WAY TO EXIGENCIES OF
LOCAL POLITICS AND PSYCHOLOGY. THE DECISIONS SEEMED LESS
STRIKING TO US HERE, PERHAPS, BECAUSE WE UNAWARE UNTIL RECEIPT
REFTEL THAT SECRETARY BEING ENTERTAINED BY CHIEF OF STATE IN
ALL OTHER COUNTRIES HE IS VISITING. HAD WE KNOWN THIS, WE
WOULD HAVE BEEN IN BETTER POSITION RESIST CHANGES EVEN MORE
FORCEFULLY THAN WE DID. WE MAY BE ABLE EVEN NOW TO MAKE USE
OF THIS INFORMATION.

3. NYERERE AND TANGOV CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT PURPOSE OF
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SECRETARY'S VISIT IS TO ESTABLISH NEW US RELATIONSHIP WITH

AFRICA. NYERERE ATTACHES HIGH IMPORTANCE TO THIS. AS HE SAID (DAR 1364), HE IS LOOKING FORWARD VERY MUCH TO SPENDING TIME ALONE WITH SECRETARY AND TO SHARING HIS THOUGHTS WITH HIM. HE HAS MADE UNQUALIFIED STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN SECRETARY'S BONA FIDES (DAR 1370). HOWEVER, HE IS NOT YET CONFIDENT THAT NEW US POLICY WILL BE ONE WITH LARGE AREAS OF COMMON US AND TANZANIA INTERESTS AND ONE TO WHICH HE WILL WANT TO GIVE HIS SUPPORT. WE HOPE THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT WILL RESULT FROM THE SECRETARY'S VISIT.

4. THE SECRETARY WILL BE THE ONLY FOREIGNER AND ONLY GUEST OF HONOR IN THE PRESIDENTIAL BOX AT UNION DAY PARADE. WE ARE TOLD THAT THOSE INVITED TO DINNER WILL CONSTITUTE BROAD SPECTRUM OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTY LEADERS AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED TANZANIANS. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS PROMISED GUEST LIST FOR DINNER IN A FEW HOURS AND WE WILL FORWARD IT IMMEDIATELY.

5. AS INDICATED ABOVE, THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED IN PARA 1 REFTEL HAVE ALREADY BEEN EXPRESSED TO TANGOV. IF YOU WISH ME TO REPEAT THEM ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OR THE SECRETARY, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. I CAN FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. HOWEVER, AT THIS POINT I DO NOT BELIEVE REPETITION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO SUCCESS OF THE VISIT.

6. WE HAVE NEVER HAD ANY DOUBT THAT WASHINGTON IS NOT CONCERNED WITH NICETIES OF PROTOCOL BUT WITH ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF VISIT. TANGOV ATTITUDE IS THE SAME. THIS APPLIES EQUALLY TO APPRECIATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE VISIT. IN MY CONSIDERED JUDGMENT, JUGGLING OF SCHEDULE THAT HAS GONE ON HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN SYMBOLIC OF CHANGING ATTITUDES TOWARD VISIT BUT REFLECTIVE OF DELAYED CONSIDERATION OF HOW BEST HANDLE IT IN CONTEXT DOMESTIC POLITICAL FACTORS, COUPLED WITH CERTAIN AMOUNT INEFFICIENCY AND LACK OF COORDINATION. WE REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT VISIT DAR WILL BE A PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENT OF SECRETARY'S TIME AND ENERGY.

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